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THE SHORTLIST

Minnesota State Fair style: 14 looks from 2019's opening day
at citypages.com



LESLIE PLESSER

THE STAT SHEET

\$57 million

Revenue generated by the State Fair in 2018, a figure that should be surpassed this week

1

Minnesota's ranking among the friendliest states, voted by readers of the vacation site Big Seven Travel

\$200,000

What Minneapolis will pay the family of Jamar Clark, killed during an arrest by Minneapolis police

1

Wisconsin's ranking among farm bankruptcies this year

"I thought it's called 'the great Minnesota get-together' because we were supposed to come together and bask in our superiority over Iowa."

Reader A.J. Van den Berghe responds to "The Minnesota State Fair's worst new food is the Amy Klobuchar waffle," at citypages.com.

TRUMP'S LAW

RELIGIOUS SUPREMACY is the notion that "love thy neighbor" only applies to those who are worthy. It was behind much of the discrimination in the Old South, not to mention Minnesota's history of rejecting Jews, Catholics, Muslims, and so many others.

Now a suit by two St. Cloud wedding videographers could make it legal again. Carl and Angel Larsen want the right to refuse service to gay couples. Last week, a federal court agreed, ruling that businesses can't be forced by Minnesota's Human Rights law to express support for something they don't believe.

The decree would appear to legalize all kinds of discrimination, like rejecting service to interracial couples, Jews, or other non-Christians. With the federal courts increasingly stocked with Trump appointees, it appears the Old South is about to rise again, this time in Minnesota.

POPULAR STORIES AT CITYPAGES.COM

Holy shit look at this Minnesota **DEER**

BRIAN OAKE: Petition seeks Current DJ's rehiring by Minnesota Public Radio

Your 2019 guide to the **MINNESOTA STATE FAIR'S** new foods

The internet thought it was done with **KRIS LINDAHL**. Then he conquered the sky of St. Paul

St. Paul building shows how **AIRBNB** is squeezing residents from housing market

MEDITATING WITH ONE EYE OPEN

Minneapolis police are looking for a notorious yoga studio bandit

If you've ever taken a yoga class, you know there's a routine at the top of the hour.

Before you do any posing, you take off your sweatshirt, shoes, purse, what have you, and stuff them into a handy cubby right outside the studio. You insert your money and your keys into crevices and pockets as a measure of security. But before you walk away, perhaps a brief, insecure thought crosses your mind—something like, "Hey, what's stopping anyone from taking all this?"

Turns out, nothing.

WCCO reports that this summer has been awash in yoga studio theft. The thief, like you, has a routine: Sign up for a free week of yoga classes, spend most of the hour posing and ohm-ing with everyone

else, leave early, and take everyone else's valuables with you. Already, three Minneapolis YogaFits and a YogaSol in Northeast have been struck by this smooth criminal.

These days, YogaFit studios have signs telling members to bring their valuables into class rather than risk the cubbies. In the meantime, Minneapolis Police have surveillance video from all the YogaFit locations.

It's not the only kind of misfortune to befall studios this summer. TaraNa yoga studio in Kingfield got a rude awakening in June in the form of a smashed window and thousands of dollars in damage.

According to Southwest Journal, this was likely a bit of collateral damage rather than a personal vendetta. The vandal's real target was likely the forthcoming



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Good Times pizza and ice cream parlor next door, which has had its windows and doors smashed six times since January. Surveillance footage has picked up what appeared to be two women armed with hammers.

Owner Jeffrey Bores told the Journal

that he "knew" it wouldn't be the last time, considering what Good Times had been going through.

So, whether you're attending classes to tone your body or calm your mind, it may be best to meditate with one eye open. —HANNAH JONES

Hidradenitis Suppurativa (severe acne like condition in skin folds) Research Study for Adults

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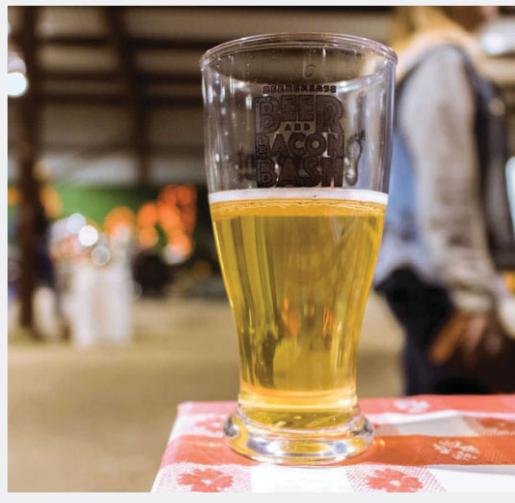
FAIR GAME

*Inside the intense and fabulous world
of English horse shows*

By **BRITTANY CHAFFEE**



Corinne Rogers
with Ro & Me's
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LUCY HAWTHORNE

The tension in the barn is palpable.

The electric energy of nervous riders mixes with the muffled sound of horses neighing and the heady scent of manure. Eager mothers paint eye shadow onto their adolescent daughters before their class. Each “class” signifies a different level of competition, and there are about 20 of them scheduled for this session at the UPHA American Royal National Championship Horse Show in Kansas City, Kansas.

The horses are being primed, too. People take extensions, made with real horse hair, and wash them with Mane 'n Tail shampoo. Hardy barn hands run to the warm-up arena with a towel and sheen spray. Some even run behind horses as they trot to the show arena, brushing tails and wiping spit from animals' frothy mouths.

Meanwhile, stern riding instructors and haughty trainers stand at the edge of the arena, shouting demands to their riders: “Sit up straight! Shorten your reins! Did you hear me? Slow down!”

The competition is about to begin. Inside, the arena is decorated with roses and ferns, and there's a stage in the center for the judging committee. An organist plays “Summer Samba” and “In the Mood” to the beat of the horses' gaits. The ringmaster, dressed in a P.T. Barnum red circus costume, escorts judges to the center ring, arm in arm.

Horses and riders are being judged on three gaits: walk, trot, and canter. The best riders bring strong energy and motion. The audience yelps and screams for their favorites.

After everyone has taken their turn, the riders line up in the center of the ring with the ringmaster, and the winner is announced. There are gasps in the crowd. A

blue ribbon is pinned on the bridle, and the team celebrates with a victory lap, followed by a photo to commemorate the moment. The photographer hunches down while a trainer throws a towel in the air, the horse equivalent of “Say cheese!,” which helps the animal look alert for the photo.

During the show, stables showcase winning ribbons on stall doors. They're colorful, in order first to eighth: blue, red, yellow, white, pink, green, purple, and brown. Some riders decorate poster boards with images of their horse and fun facts to display alongside their ribbons. The horses have cute “barn names” like T-Bone and Gus, short for their full registered names, which include lengthy monikers like CH Cloverleaf Freedom Writer, the Pickup Line, Cheetah's Hollywood Pride, and I'm Ziggy Stardust. (The “CH” stands for “Champion,” and the horse gets that added to their registered name if they win a certain number of championships in their lifetime.)

For the barn, these shows are all about building a good reputation, and most take their decorating very seriously. Hired barn hands will hang cloth curtains on stable doors. Each barn has colors that represent it, and the themed colors cover barn doors to make the stables look chic. Old pier lamp posts are installed near the feeding rooms, and wood chips and small boulders are arranged at the entrance of each barn aisle to create a grandiose landscape. Some barns even go so far as to feature mini waterfalls and koi ponds.

Everything about English riding is grand spectacle. The style originated in Europe, and came to the United States in the mid-19th century. In the early days, English riding

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LUCY HAWTHORNE

Emily Okey, with Tell Me

was a way for people to show off their horses in parks on Sunday afternoons. Nowadays, it's one of the greatest and least talked-about sports in America.

In English riding, there are many breeds and judging requirements. Some horses are jumpers (hunter jumper), judged on a jumping course, while others are judged on a flat course (dressage). Some are saddle horses (saddleseat), and are judged on animation of gait and the beauty of the rider.

Mya Lear, an 18-year-old trainer at Lear Stables in Hastings, grew up in the English horse show scene. Her mother and grandmother have both worked as trainers and riding instructors. Together, they are three generations of gritty, passionate women who don't plan on leaving the horse industry anytime soon. Last year, Mya brought her horse, Vinnie, to the American Royal Nationals in Kansas City, Kansas.

"There's a feeling you get right before you make a pass that makes or breaks your class," Lear says. "It's irreplaceable. The energy overwhelms your body and you have to control it to prevent mistakes. It's a psychological high and a physical workout at the same time. The horse under you has so much power, but you're the one deciding how to use it."

Judy Oleson, another avid show rider, started riding in her 30s. Now in her early 70s, she still shows her horse, Seren. "The fact that one can keep riding for a long time is very important to me," she says. "I love the relationship you develop with your horse. I have found them to be an excellent teacher. The horse I currently own is the most challenging. She has taught me patience, perseverance, and the ability to rise to many occasions that I would have not thought possible."

Participating in the sport is no casual venture, as it involves a great deal of investment, including time and money.

Appearance is important for success. At a show, horses are so polished you could eat dinner off their backside (though that's not recommended). Tail switches are washed and tied onto the horse's tailbone with shoestring to make their tails look fuller and longer. Grooms lather horses' white stockings with baby powder to make their markings look more crisp and white. Leg, ear, and nose hair is trimmed, and hooves are painted with polish so the horse appears more clean-cut. Ribbons are braided into their mane, color-coordinated with their barn color to show pride. Horses that are jumpers have their manes and tails braided entirely. On a good day, it can take two to three hours to get one horse fully ready.

As far as human fashion is concerned, English riders typically wear tuxedo-style jackets with chic matching riding pants, though styles differ among divisions. Men look a bit like mobsters, sporting bolero hats (hello, Beyoncé's "Formation") and black suits with ties. Women, on the other hand, wear felt top hats or helmets, colorful silk vests, and, in some classes, a tie.

Outfits can cost anywhere from \$1,500 to \$5,000. And that's just the clothing. Paying to bring a horse to a show can cost anywhere from \$1,000 to \$3,000 when you add up the shipping/trailer, stall bedding, feed, and class entry fees. Throughout a show season, riders must attend three to five shows to qualify for championships at the end of the year.

Then there's the time commitment. Riders prep for months, often entire winters, in hopes of show-season success.

"I spent six days a week at the barn," Lear says of her preparation for Nationals. "I

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went to the gym every day. My horse wasn't easy to ride; he had off days, days he didn't want to listen. But none of that mattered. If I wanted to go, I was the one who had to get him through it. If you aren't giving your all, you can't expect your horse to."

Ideally, all of the cost pays off at the shows, which are typically multi-day events.

During a competition, trainers, families, supporting riders, and friends are encouraged to scream and cheer loudly. Some fellow riders will even stand at the fence and howl and yelp. New onlookers are often taken by surprise at the spectacle.

Horses are judged on manners, energy level, level of enjoyment, and control. Some classes judge the riders as well. Riders should sit up tall, stay strong in body, and look happy and confident.

"The horses are just as passionate about kicking ass as I am," says Lear. "I like a horse that's a little bit too confident, like that girl in school who was never self-conscious so you were a little jealous, but were also proud that she knew how pretty she was. That's the good kind of horse."

This is a world filled with big personalities. Imagine the equine version of *Best in Show*, Christopher Guest's mockumentary about people who enter prestigious dog shows. Like the movie, the horse show is all about the people and their animals.



You have the energetic horse girl, the overly involved show mom, the pristine and punctual trainer, and the helicopter horse owner.

It's also a world with camaraderie and a tight-knit community. Each day, festivities continue into the evening. People will put together things like black-and-white galas, wine pulls, and potluck dinners, typically hosted in the cow barn across

Morgan Schleske, with Patriot

the street or another nearby location. The dinners are robust and plentiful, filled with conversations on judging fairness, horses for sale, training blunders, and relationships. The entire weekend can feel like a hardworking faux getaway at the Catskills.

The after-hours portion of the show is one of Lear's favorites. "The passion we all share somehow convinces everyone to meet up every night to enjoy food and drinks as music plays and we talk about everything horses," she says. "Who sold who to who? What horse switched divisions? Which person won that class? Who's going to Louisville [World Championships] this year? In the arena, people will fight to win until the winner is called, but everyone is family."

When the sun sets on the final day, the horses are expertly packaged to ship back to their homes with leg wraps and recovery travel suits (yes, horses have those). Barn hands dump out coolers that once housed Pinot Grigio and bottled water. All of the hard work is over... until next time.

□

English horse shows are a delight, but they are also very niche. That can lead to questions about the future of the sport. With the sport's high cost and low accessibility, its popularity has dwindled, especially in the Midwest. The most popular English competitions are where the money is: along the East Coast and in the South. The sport can come off as elite, as people with more money can buy better horses,

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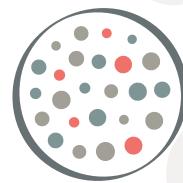
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Victoria Pestel, with Patches

gain access to more experience, and afford to go to more competitions.

Lear has another way of thinking about it, however. "You make a team. You don't buy a team. The ones who end up doing this forever aren't always the richest," she notes. "The thing about the horse community is we all want everyone to win... but it's a matter of how hard they will work for it. There are plenty of barns around the country where everyone can get their fair share, but you have to stand up and do it."

Oleson agrees. "I think that most people who do this set aside a good portion of their disposable income for their love of horses," she says. "It is hard to say where the future of the sport is going. But I will certainly do my best to make sure folks get to see these wonderful animals and get to know them."

These humans care deeply about their animals. Many stables have been around for 20 to 30 years, and a lot of them have been passed down through generations. For horse people in Minnesota, this is how summer weekends are spent.

"The horses are my athletes, partners, and therapists," Lear says. "The barn is a place I can escape from the chaos of the world. The sport is a way for me to feel strong and confident and good about myself. I continue to ride because I can't imagine how to go through life without it." **CP**

UPCOMING AMERICAN MIDWEST HORSE SHOWS

Minnesota State Fair

AUG. 22-SEPT. 2

(Coliseum, Fairgrounds)

Minnesota Arabian Horse Association Fall Classic

SEPT. 13-15

(Winona, Minnesota Equestrian Center)

Minnesota Harvest Show

OCT. 1-6

(Coliseum, Fairgrounds)

Minnesota Futurity Horse Show

OCT. 4-6

(Winona, Minnesota Equestrian Center)

Octoberfest Horse Show

OCT. 11-13

(Simon Arena, Cannon Falls)

4th Annual MN Academy Equestrian Finals

OCT. 27

(Compeer Arena, Fairgrounds)

Riders & Ribbons Horse Show (Qualifiers 2019)

OCT. 27

(Compeer Arena, Fairgrounds)

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BY DUSTIN NELSON

It's hard to believe it's already been a year since the State Fair was here—you just finished digesting 2018's Messy Giuseppe, and there's still a half-eaten bucket of cookies in the backseat of the car. Nonetheless, it's back with all the Minnesotan glory you'd feel radiating off, say, a butter bust of Prince surrounded by crop art of The Revolution.

Among the State Fair-exclusive drinks are 39 new beers, seltzers, and ciders. Unfortunately, that's too many beers for you to drink in a single visit. Fortunately, like last year, an infallible algorithm is available to help you construct your short list ... based on how Minnesotan they are.

Oh Geez, Cousin Mindy From Io-wah Would Love That

21-18. Rosa Fresca (Indeed) / Side-show Spritzer (Surly) / Slushy LuLu Limoncello (Sociable Cider Werks) / Coco-Lime Wit (Fair State)

All of these are drinks you can imagine enjoying on a dock up at the lake as loon calls fill the air. *Aaaa-oooooo* (The algorithm's loon call is a work in progress, okay?) Lakes don't exclusively exist in Minnesota, but when you think about it, you kinda believe that don't you? The first is Indeed's Mexican Honey Light dressed up with hibiscus and lime. Surly's is a light sparkling lager with passion fruit and mango. The Coco-Lime Wit is self-explanatory, while Sociable's made a Limoncello-style slushie from their Road Rash Shandy with lemon. Ja, these are some real cabin sippers.

17. Canoe Paddler Kölsch (Leinenkugel)

You can canoe in any state. I hear you could even do it in the ocean, but I wouldn't know. It's saltier than grandma's Thanksgiving ham out there and that's just too salty for me. Anyhow, the only good canoeing in the country is in the Boundary Waters. Points.

16. Crop Duster Lager (Fair State)

As the classic children's book says, everybody farts. It's not just a Minnesotan thing, so it probably shouldn't be here. But it turns out the algorithm loves giggling about farts.

15-14. Lemon Drop Shandy (Tin Whiskers) / The Shandlot Mixed Berry Shandy (Bauhaus)

Shandy is a German invention. However, the algorithm is handing out points on two



STAR TRIBUNE

accounts. 1) German immigrants shaped early beer culture here. 2) The shandy revival in the U.S. came out of Wisconsin and that's one of Minnesota's earmuffs.

13. People Watcher (Finnegans)

There's nothing better at the Great Minnesota Get Together than people-watching. The algorithm hates to lean too hard on a beer's name, but drinking this pilsner on a bench as humans do their thing sounds like a swell use of time.

12. Cotton Candy Milkshake

IPA (Big Wood)

Deep-fried foods seem like the quintessential State Fair food but think about it: You eat deep-fried shit all the time. Cotton Candy, though? Now there's a State Fair-only food. You don't go to Culvers and ask for a side of cotton candy with your butter burger.

11. Cotton Candy

Cream Ale (Lupulin)

Cotton Candy Cream Ale comes out slightly ahead here. It's only available in the Grandstand with tickets to a concert. Tucking it away to passive-aggressively keep it for yourself is a pretty Minnesotan move. Points.

10. Funnel Cloud F2

Ale (Bad Weather)

Cotton candy is the quintessential State

NEVER ARBITRARY

New State Fair beers, ranked by their MN-ness

Wore Red Wing Shoes to the State Hockey Tournament but Was Late Because He Was "Up North" IPA. Jk. The algorithm loves it. This is the State Fair, not some hoity-toity Andrew Zimmern food hall. Points, dammit.

6. Elderflower Wheat Ale (Able)

Unlike grandma's marshmallow salad, this wheat ale is made with all-Minnesotan ingredients. It's so Minnesotan it has a tattoo of Walter Mondale on its inner thigh.

5. MN Haze (Lakes & Legends)

A Minnesota-grown hazy IPA? Yup. And it has a name that invites you to imagine what a Minnesota haze might be. The fog produced by one too many Greenies? The euphoria of reminiscing about what Uptown used to be like? A parking lot full of Trampled By Turtles fans?

4. Four Seam Screamer (Surly)

This almost got docked for being a West Coast IPA, but Surly brewed it with the help of former Twins pitcher Glen Perkins. Pandering to the algorithm? Yes. Do we care? No. This beer never forgot the glory days of Gov. The Body.

3. The Great Minnesota Handshake (Indeed and The Freehouse)

For the top of the list, it was a close call between the next two and this cream ale with strawberry and vanilla. To break the deadlock, the algorithm Googled Minnesota Handshake. (Do not Google that.) The cream ale with strawberry and vanilla (somehow) recovered and still makes the top three.

2. MN Brew Together Orange Dream-sicle IPA (Modist and Barrel Theory)

Even if Klobuchar won't say it, we will: the Minnesota State Fair is the best state fair. We'll take all the indulging the home team we can get. Plus, this was made with barley and wheat malt from Minnesota.

1. Great Minnesota

Citra-gether IPA (612Brew)

Holy pandering to the algorithm. It's not just a great name with a pseudo-pun. It's a sessionable beer, perfect for strolling Dan Patch Avenue while sweating out those cheesy Sriracha funnel cake bites. This beer is so Minnesotan it can tell you the total number Ts and Ns in the combined names of Josh Hartnett and Seann William Scott without pausing to count.

Abbreviated for print; find all 39 online. 



UP NEXT AT THE ORDWAY



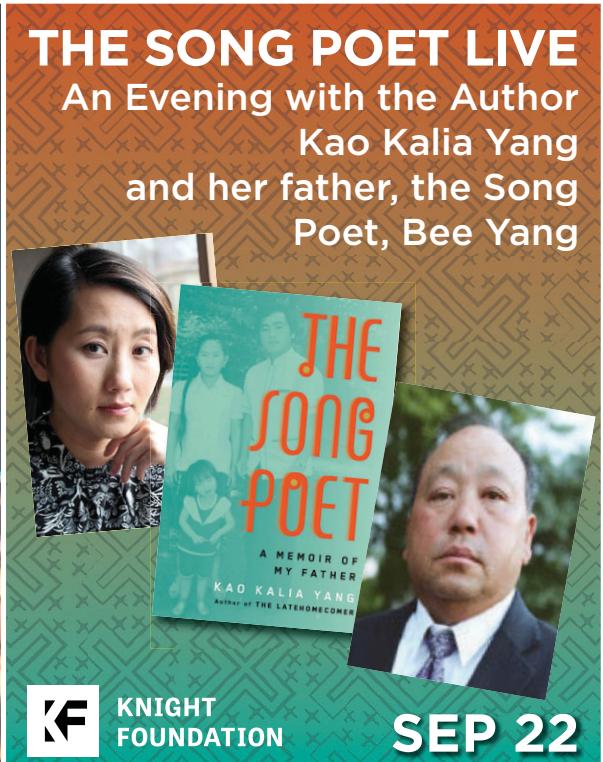
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ORDWAY ORIGINAL

SEP 10-22



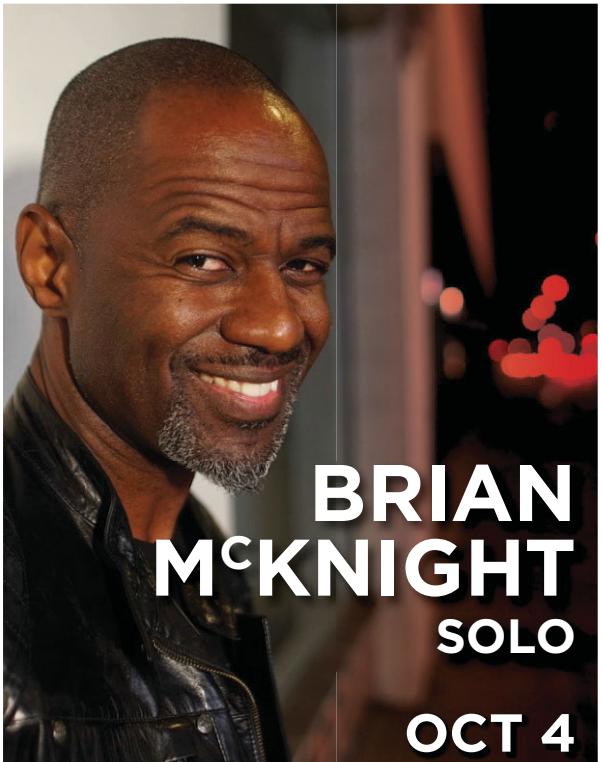
Classic Albums Live
presents
Led Zeppelin IV

SEP 21



THE SONG POET LIVE
An Evening with the Author
Kao Kalia Yang
and her father, the Song
Poet, Bee Yang

KF KNIGHT FOUNDATION SEP 22



**BRIAN
MCKNIGHT
SOLO**

OCT 4

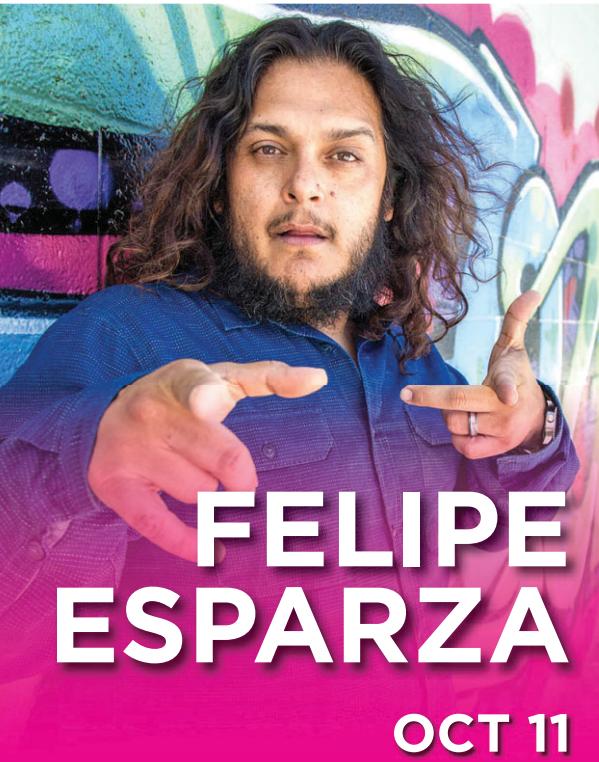


GAELYNN LEA

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KF KNIGHT FOUNDATION 89.3 the current OCT 5



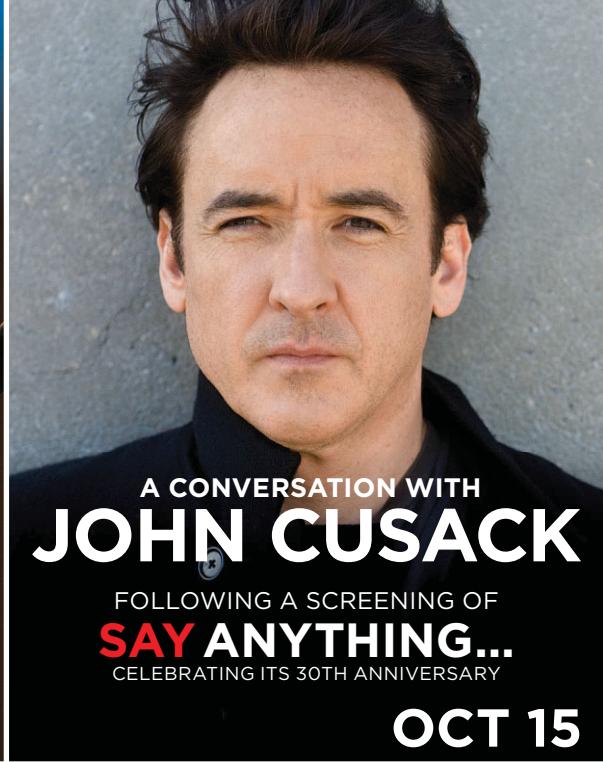
**FELIPE
ESPARZA**

OCT 11



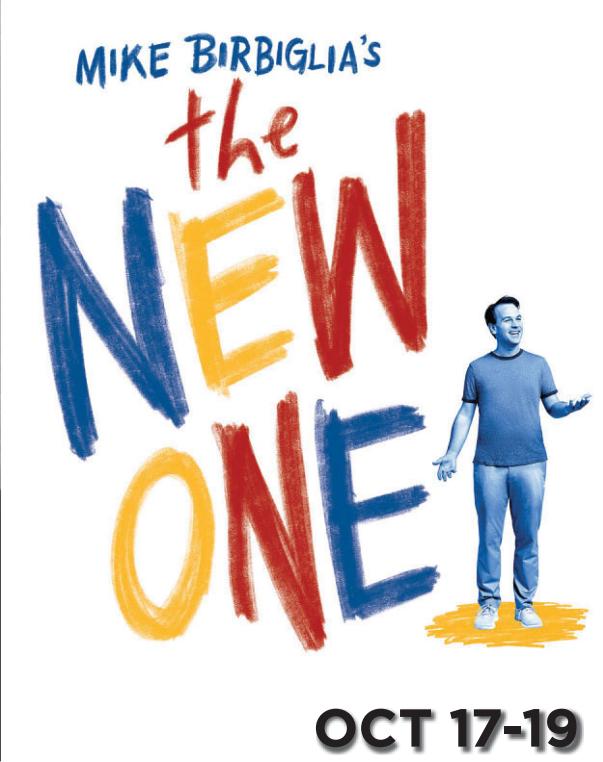
SUGAR SKULL!
A Día de los Muertos
Musical Adventure

OCT 4



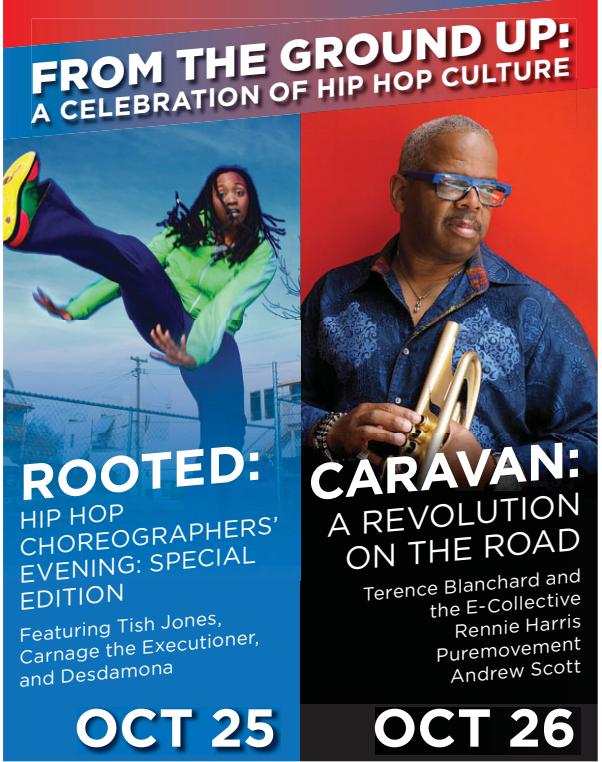
A CONVERSATION WITH
JOHN CUSACK
FOLLOWING A SCREENING OF
SAY ANYTHING...
CELEBRATING ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

OCT 15



**MIKE BIRBIGLIA'S
the
NEW
ONE**

OCT 17-19

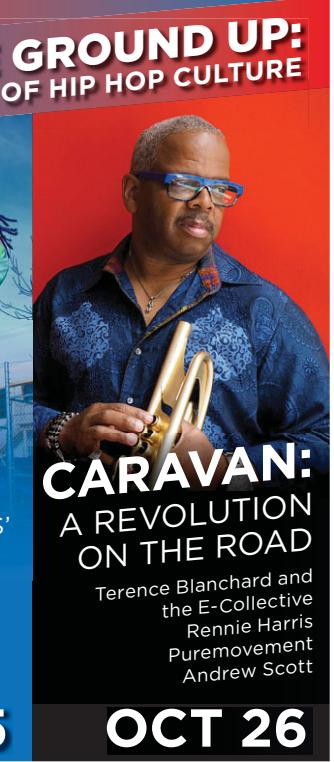


FROM THE GROUND UP:
A CELEBRATION OF HIP HOP CULTURE

ROOTED:
HIP HOP
CHOREOGRAPHERS'
EVENING: SPECIAL
EDITION

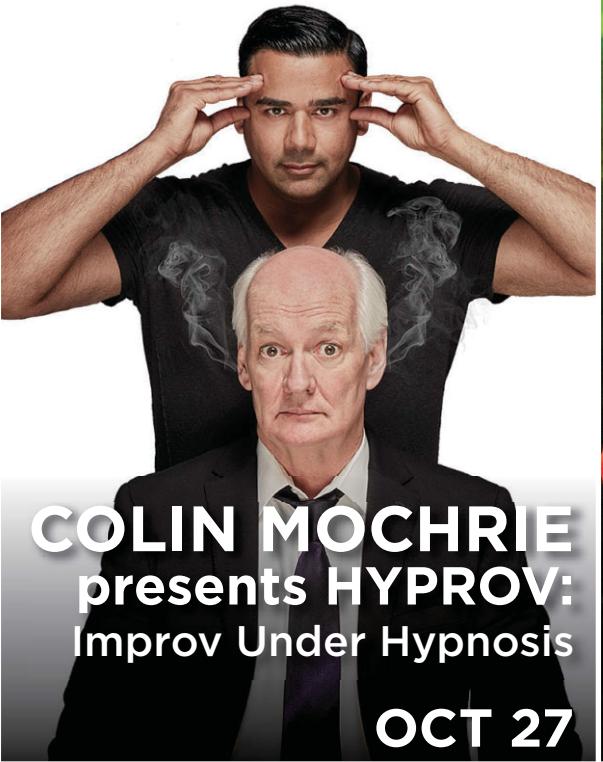
Featuring Tish Jones,
Carnage the Executioner,
Desdamona

OCT 25



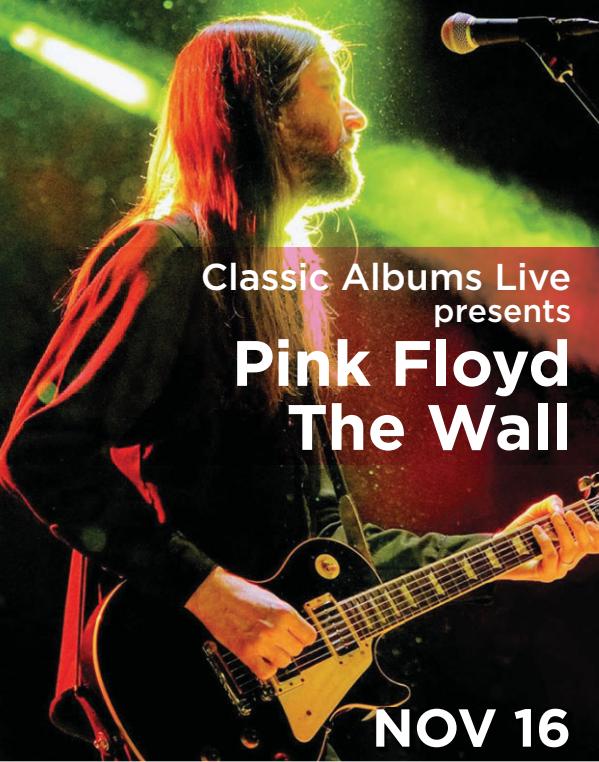
CARAVAN:
A REVOLUTION
ON THE ROAD
Terence Blanchard and
the E-Collective
Rennie Harris
Puremovement
Andrew Scott

OCT 26



**COLIN MOCHRIE
presents HYPROV:
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OCT 27



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The Wall**

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STATE THEATRE

SEPT
04



HOT SNAKES
WITH DES DEMONAS, GREEN/BLUE
FINE LINE

SEPT
06

FIRST AVENUE MAINROOM



AUG
31



SEPT
06



SEPT
07



SEPT
10



SEPT
11



SEPT
12



SEPT
13



SEPT
17



SEPT
18



SEPT
19

PALACE THEATRE



SEPT
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SEPT
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SEPT
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SEPT
27



SEPT
28

FITZGERALD THEATER



SEPT
06 & 07



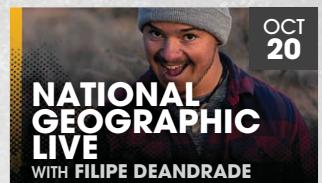
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OCT
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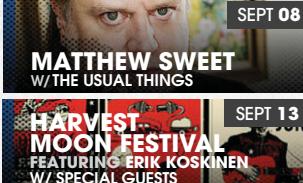


OCT
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FINE LINE



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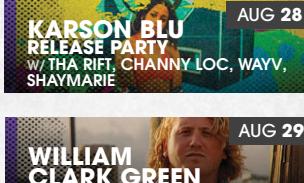


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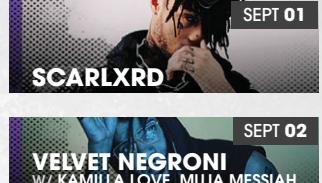
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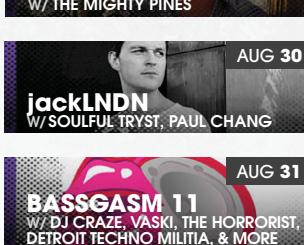
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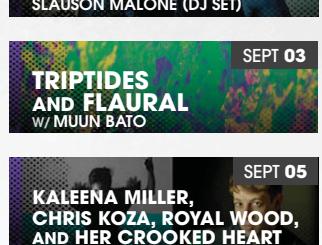
SEPT
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AUG
29

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AUG
30



SEPT
03



AUG
31



SEPT
05

AROUND TOWN



SEPT
14



SEPT
18



SEPT
20



SEPT
25



SEPT
28

A LIST

THURSDAY Risky stories at Amsterdam **p. 22**

FRIDAY Tiki time at Sisyphus **p. 22**

SATURDAY Strange Girls' summer market **p. 24**

5 to 10 on Hennepin hosts one final party for the season



COLIN MICHAEL SIMMONS

WEDNESDAY 8.28

FESTIVAL

5 TO 10 ON HENNEPIN

HENNEPIN AVENUE

Hennepin Theatre Trust and the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District continue their monthly outdoor series with a lineup of theater, music, poetry, and activities. The event takes place in the parking lot at Fifth and Hennepin, and features a killer view of the Bob Dylan mural. In the lot you'll find chess and free games for youth, a community/human resources fair, a photobooth, face painting, and hot dogs for all. Performing at

the event is Zamya Theater Project, featuring a cast of artists who have lived with homelessness. Also on the bill: youth drummers from We Win Institute, youth performers from Kulture Klub Collaborative, poet Joe Davis, musician Alma Andina, and DJ Mickey Breeze. 5 to 10 p.m. Free. Find the fun in the parking lot at 500 Hennepin Avenue in downtown Minneapolis. —SHEILA REGAN

COMEDY

CHRIS PORTER

ACME COMEDY CO.

"I used to try to relax when I came home," says Chris Porter from the

back of a limo in Las Vegas, "but the older I get, I realize my time on Earth is coming to an end, so now I try and keep myself busy. I've slept enough for 40 years. Let's live a little." The limo is courtesy of Jimmy Kimmel's comedy club, and is shuttling Porter back from a radio interview. Never one for Vegas, Porter enjoys the town more these days. "The older I get I'm starting to figure out how to do it, and it's a little more fun now. I don't really gamble, but I like the restaurants and, well, the restaurants really." When not headlining clubs around the country, Porter co-hosts *The One Millionth Podcast* with his sister Andi.

He is also big into sports, particularly his hometown Kansas City Royals, University of Kansas men's basketball, and the Kansas City Chiefs. Based in L.A., he makes it back to K.C. a few times a year, and has even thought of moving back some day. "The last time I went back, I realized that wasn't an option," he explains. "Not many people in Kansas City have my schedule. I don't know if you've ever asked someone to brunch on a Tuesday, but they get mad at you." 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$18. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday** —P.F. WILSON ▶

Pedro Pepa goes all out for Mother Goose



COURTESY OF THE EVENT ORGANIZERS

THURSDAY 8.29

GAMESHOW

RISK!

AMSTERDAM BAR AND HALL

Risk!, a live show and podcast originated by its host, comedian Kevin Allison, centers on solo storytelling, but it is most assuredly not spoken word. Rather than performing a polished monologue, *Risk!* participants must speak of their most personal experiences, whether their tale is hilarious or harrowing. In a sense, Allison has crafted a singular form of public therapy in which the speaker reveals thoughts and feelings that might otherwise have gone unexpressed. Here the audience is the support group, cheering on those who have mustered the courage to expose previously concealed corners of their lives. Such unfeigned sincerity has made the show a popular fixture in New York and Los Angeles, inspiring well-known comics to take on the challenge. Even so, the traveling show arguably represents an even bigger thrill, as the most seemingly ordinary people unveil the most extraordinary of depths. 18+. 7 p.m. \$22. 6 W. Sixth St., St. Paul; 612-285-3112. —BRAD RICHASON

COMEDY

LAWRENCE KILLEBREW

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

"I was never a funny kid," says Lawrence Killebrew, "but I always had a smart mouth and a keen way of thinking." His entry into comedy was inspired by a comedian, but not one

Killebrew admired. "I was in the airport, and I saw this comic I'd seen on *Comic View*," he explains. "I spoke to him, and he sold me a DVD of his comedy. It was so bad. He got my 10 dollars, and I told myself, 'I'm going to start telling jokes, put out a DVD, and make my money back.'" Like many comics, Killebrew has worked hard to develop a unique comedy voice. "All comedians are influenced by some comedian they've seen before, or looked up to. It takes a while to get comfortable with yourself." That also means opening up onstage. "I just talk about my life. I went through a bad breakup and I'm dealing with that," he says. The challenge, he has found, has been finding a way to make something so painful funny. "It's difficult, but I'm working on it." 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$16-\$23. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday** —P.F. WILSON

FRIDAY 8.30

BARHOPPING

TIKI TAKEOVER

SISYPHUS BREWING

This weekend, Sisyphus Brewing will be giving guests tropical vibes at their tiki-themed beer party. The decor will be decidedly Hawaiian, with the event space all decked out. The beer list will also be tiki-themed, but don't panic; there's a little bit of everything scheduled, so whether you prefer a fruity sour or something a little more traditional, you've got options. The

four special brews on tap are Key Lime Lager, Habanero Mango Hefeweizen, Fruit Punch Sour, and Painkiller IPA (laced with coconut and orange juices). A keg of Jack Daniels Barrel Aged Stout with Coconut will also be added to the mix at some point. Noon to midnight. Free. 712 Ontario Ave. W., Minneapolis; 612-444-8674. **Through Saturday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

THEATER

MOTHER GOOSE'S BEDTIME STORIES 2 YEAR ANNIVERSARY PARTY

THE CEDAR

Mother Goose's Bedtime Stories is an ongoing series of music, poetry, comedy, and dance by artists of color and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24 ▶

FRIDAY

BARHOPPING

DEATH & CO. BAR TAKEOVER

CONSTANTINE MPLS

Last summer, heralded cocktail innovators Death & Co. took up a weeklong residency at Constantine in downtown Minneapolis, and the Twin Cities bar scene freaked out. So who are these people? In 2007, the bar opened in Manhattan's East Village with a menu from an all-star lineup of drink makers who were given the green light to do whatever they fancied. What followed has garnered many prestigious awards, and has had a massive influence on cocktail culture in America. "Death & Co. has had an undeniable impact on the resurgence of classically inspired cocktails," Dan Oskey, founder of Tattersall Distilling in Minneapolis, explained to us earlier this month. "Their book has been fundamental in improving cocktail culture across the globe, taking classic cocktails and expanding upon them while at the same time recomposing their essential components." This Friday and Saturday, Sam Johnson of the NYC location and Sam Penton from the Denver expansion will be serving drinks. These nights tend to get busy real fast, and there's no reservation system, so get there early if you hope to get anywhere near the bar. 6 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Free. 1115 Second Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-353-6207. **Through Saturday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER



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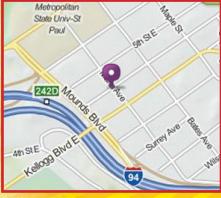
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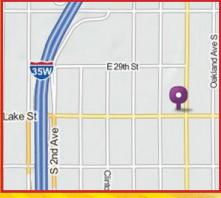
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A-LIST

Nora McInerny chats with Dessa and host Curtis Sittenfeld on making it in writing.



BRANDON WERTH

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ▶

indigenous artists, particularly from LGBTQ communities. This week, they're celebrating their two-year birthday with a loud and proud evening of entertainment hosted by Ondine the Siren Queen and the Real Mother Goose (otherwise known as Xochi de la Luna). The event's highlights include poetry by Ifrah Mansour, a performance by Doña Pepa (local choreographer Pedro Lander's drag persona), a dance by BLAQ, music by Oyster World and Freaque, and comedy sets by Comrade Tripp and Devohn Bland. Originally produced solely by de la Luna, the Mother Goose Bedtime Stories has had a few different iterations in the past two years, and continues to adapt and change through collaborative partnerships. Here's hoping this joyful event keeps going. All ages. 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$10-\$35 sliding scale. 416 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-333-5336. **Also Saturday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

SATURDAY 8.31

MARKET

SUMMER MARKET: A CONSPIRACY OF STRANGE GIRLS

MODIST BREWING COMPANY

Maker markets are popping up everywhere around town these days, but local collective A Conspiracy of Strange Girls is one of the few (perhaps only?) Twin Cities artist markets with a dark punk flavor. During this macabre event, hosted in broad daylight, you'll find work from around 25 local makers. There will be visual artists like Steak & Unicorns, whose pop-culture references include Kylo Ren, Sailor Moon, and Sansa Stark. Cool jewelry includes silver-leaf earrings from 3 Jäg Designs, and Lofty Dog Designs has some bad-ass T-shirts and pins featuring bones, swords, and hairless cats. Sip a beer from Modist and enjoy acoustic tunes from Rusty Playground as you shop. Noon to 8 p.m. Free. 505 N. Third St., Minneapolis; 612-454-0258. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

TOUR

SUNSET ON THE LOCK

UPPER ST. ANTHONY FALLS LOCK AND DAM

This summer, the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam has invited people to explore the area during extended hours, while also offering tours, entertainment, and talks. Tonight's open house will be the final installment of the series this season. It's a pretty neat experience, filled with gorgeous views of the city and the Mississippi River as the sun sets. Take photos, and bring the kids. Saturday's grand finale will feature a chalk art installation by Shawn McCann and Kimberly Wood. Other artists are welcome to seek inspiration

TALK

FACT & FICTION

PARKWAY THEATER

Fact & Fiction: A Conversation on Literary Craft revolves around a free-flowing 70-minute conversation with acclaimed novelist Curtis Sittenfeld,



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SUNDAY 9.1

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FILM

WRESTLING WITH DARKNESS

In *The Peanut Butter Falcon*, Shia LaBeouf and Zack Gottsagen look for the light at the end of the tunnel



NIGEL BLUCK

BY TONY LIBERA

A name like *The Peanut Butter Falcon* might not suggest much in the way of plot, but it certainly gives you a taste of this picture overall: sweet, gooey, and a strange combination. It's a road movie, a buddy comedy, an indie melodrama, and even a fairytale. And while it might seem like a film of this scale is biting off more than it can chew, *The Peanut Butter Falcon*, for the most part, has enough heart to make it work.

We'll come to find that the title refers to the alter ego of buddy No. 1, Zak (Zack Gottsagen). He's a thirtysomething with Down syndrome who spends the better part of his days watching pro wrestling tapes and trying to escape the old folks home where he's been more or less abandoned. One night, he actually succeeds, running in his tighty-whities through the North Carolina night. When day breaks, Zak hides out on a boat owned by Tyler (Shia LaBeouf), a crab fisherman with a major chip on his shoulder.

When two rivals (John Hawkes and Yelawolf) attack Tyler for stealing from their traps, he sets a bunch of their stuff on fire and takes off for Florida—not realizing he has Zak in tow. A hostile intro builds to a bromance after a chance encounter with Zak's worried caretaker, Eleanor (Dakota Johnson), and soon this unlikely team becomes closer than Tyler could have imagined.

The Peanut Butter Falcon deals primarily with somber themes: the lasting effects of familial death, the failure to realize potential, the maliciousness of others. Somehow, through the overwhelming sadness, it manages to be one of the year's most uplifting films. It follows in the tradition of Mark Twain's epic *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, but *The Peanut Butter Falcon* feels more like a short story and is at its best when neglecting a grander message. Even if it loses focus on occasion, it delivers the feels when it lets the main characters do the heavy lifting.

Newcomer Gottsagen does a phenomenal job relating the struggles faced by people

THE PEANUT BUTTER FALCON

Directed by Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz
Area theaters, now playing

with Down syndrome, but his levity and clear stick-to-itiveness keep this from being some long-form pity party. Even at his lowest, Zak's unwillingness to let go of his wrestling dreams despite the odds is nothing if not admirable. Tyler initially serves as a darker counterbalance, but LaBeouf's infusion of *carpe diem* attitude and moral ambiguity highlights the complexities of a man searching for light at the end of the tunnel. LaBeouf's personal life can overshadow his acting ability for some, but *The Peanut Butter Falcon* is a great reminder of what a talent he's always been.

Impressive and inspiring, this is a movie that proves you don't need a huge budget or a sweeping epic narrative to leave a mark. Small, character-driven tales can make just as much of a personal impact. And after a summer of huge Hollywood blockbusters, *The Peanut Butter Falcon* is a welcome change of pace. □

META AT MINNSKY

The show-within-a-show schtick gets more layers



GREY TREE STUDIOS

BY JAY GABLER

The creators of *[title of show]* constantly questioned themselves while taking their own eccentric project from a hastily assembled festival entry to the Great White Way. At least, that's the version of the story that's immortalized in the musical, which hit Broadway in a Tony-nominated 2008 run and is now playing in a scrappy new Minnsky Theatre production.

The show's meta-theatrical concept gets a little exhausting, all the more so in a production like this where you have to keep your mind wrapped around the fact that you're watching actors playing actors playing versions of themselves that have been repeatedly revised in a show that is often precisely about those revisions. Got it?

On paper it sounds extraordinarily pretentious, but the show's charm is that playwright Hunter Bell (played at Minnsky by Richard Lewer) and songwriter Jeff Bowen

(Steven Cox) successfully spin themselves as unassuming theater nerds who despair of making it to Broadway without a hit movie to adapt. If they're going to risk an original musical, why not make it about their own decision to write an original musical?

What began as a fun one-act is now, even with intermission, quite a marathon for the four actors—all of whom are onstage for virtually the entire show, along with their keyboard accompanist Larry (Danny Glass). Cox and Lewer are complemented by Amanda Richards as the guys' sassy friend Susan and by Roni Paige, who also directed, as Heidi, a gifted singer-actor who's torn between *[title of show]* and a potential role in *The Little Mermaid*.

While the quartet make an amiable ensemble of actors, they're strongest when singing. The show's not-so-secret weapon has always been Bowen's witty and varied songs, and if you've learned to love them on the cast album (which of course gets its own meta reference), you'll appreciate the

[TITLE OF SHOW]

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chance to hear these strong renditions delivered live.

Music director Glass keeps the complex arrangements tight, while Paige wins warm performances from her cast. *[title of show]* may never be completely satisfying in any production not starring the original creators, though, and while the Minnsky actors are likable, none of them demonstrate the kind of stage presence that might make you forget they're doing a bit.

What the production seems to beg for is a final number chronicling the way this cast came together in Minneapolis to play that cast playing themselves in New York. That would probably cause licensing problems, though: an irony that Bell and Bowen themselves might appreciate. CP

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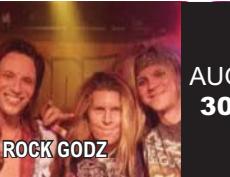
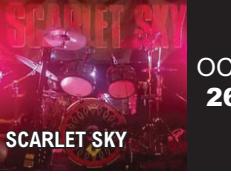
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BACK ON TRACK

With *Neon Brown*, Velvet Negroni plunges into even wilder electronic depths

BY KEITH HARRIS

Jeremy Nutzman should not be this chill. It's mid-July and the Minnesotan who calls himself Velvet Negroni is killing time in a back booth at Icehouse, not far from the stage where he'll soon be performing for the first time with his new band. Stakes are high: He's set to hit the road shortly with these musicians in support of psych-synth indie titans Tame Impala.

When Nutzman received news of the high-profile opening slot (including two nights at the Surly Brewing Festival Field in Minneapolis) he was in L.A., finishing his new album, *Neon Brown* (which comes out August 30). The task of assembling a touring band fell to the album's two producers (and Nutzman's friends) Elliott Kozel (aka Tickle Torture) and Psymun. "The first time I rehearsed with the band was yesterday, so we're playing it by ear," says Nutzman. "It's not ideal."

Despite all this background hubbub, Nutzman answers questions slowly and deliberately, though not dispassionately. Charismatic and languid, the 34-year-old attracts attention without seeming to expend effort, and admirers tend to pass their enthusiasm on to others. It was Ryan Olson who shared Nutzman's music with his buddy Justin Vernon, who invited the singer to open for Bon Iver on a couple dates and to record at his studio, April Base, in Wisconsin. (Nutzman appears on the new Bon Iver album, *i,i,i*.) Vernon, in turn, played Velvet Negroni's "Waves" for an even more famous listener: Kanye West dug the melody so much he adapted it for the hook on "Feel the Love," the opening track on his 2018 collaborative album with Kid Cudi, *Kids See Ghosts*.

As his rep has blossomed, though, Nutzman has been dormant: It's been two years since Velvet Negroni's debut album,

T.C.O.D. "I had an eight-month hiatus from anything and anybody, especially music. I just went off the map," the singer says, and there was apparently good reason. "I was just out of my mind. I was not good to be around. My friends were like 'Yo, fucking chill out. We can't deal with you.'"

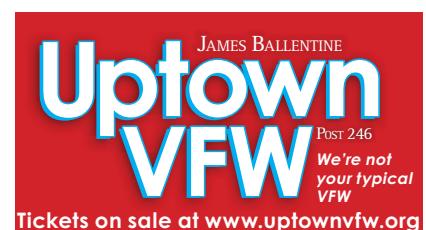
The man Nutzman had become by 2018 was a long way from the kid who grew up in Andover, Minnesota, as the adopted son of a white evangelical family. Shortly after Nutzman moved to St. Paul to attend a Christian college, University of Northwestern, his father died, and his mother moved to Texas to be closer to her family. Entranced by the freedom of living in the Cities, Nutzman stayed behind. "I was wide-eyed, like 'This is amazing—you can just do whatever you want?'"

And Nutzman did just that. First he abandoned his disciplined musical background. "I was classically trained, so I was athletically playing music but never did much composition," he says. Soon he was playing in screamo bands and writing conventional songs on acoustic guitar. Still, it was only after his friend Danny Wolf suggested he rap and left him for a week with a Macbook loaded with recording software that Nutzman exploded creatively.

"That was a special time," he says now. "I strive to get back to that mind state, listening to things I recorded that long ago, reading things that I wrote that long ago. It was kind of a magical time. I still had a capacity for amazement and wonder. I was making music, but I would still go to a live show and think 'How do they do this?' I wasn't able to compare myself to anything else. Anything I made, I was like 'Sick. I made this.'"

Soon Nutzman started calling himself Spyder Baybie Raw Dog and built up the wild rep such a name would suggest. When he formed Pony Bwoy with producer Hunter Morley, promotional materials billed the project as a departure from Nutzman's "usual antics as a drugged-up after-party boy late to the club," but drugs were still very much on the duo's agenda. Pony Bwoy fizzled out, and Nutzman settled on the Velvet Negroni moniker, adapted from the name of an overpriced cocktail he downed while playing with Marijuana Deathsquads in Austin. "I don't think I particularly liked it," he recalls.

But sometime in 2018, Nutzman had reached the end of the line. "It was at the end of an eight- or nine-year stretch of homelessness, where I was just surviving on my social currency," Nutzman says. "Wherever



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MUSIC

I was staying, whatever I contributed was definitely not money. That was just how I existed."

With help from an old pal, he pulled out of this way of life. "My friend Daniel brought me back to his house and I just stayed with his family, worked with his tree removal company, drank beer at night, watched football—I lived his life, basically, while I got my mind right."

And then, early this year, a newly rejuvenated and reoriented Nutzman embarked upon his most disciplined recording process to date. "I got together with Psymun and Elliot and we just started a regimen—from 2 p.m. to 10 or 11 at night, at least five days a week for a couple months," he says.

You can hear the three musicians form a symbiotic creative gestalt on *Neon Brown*, as the music emerges with an improvisatory sense of possibility, but with a structural integrity to it. The depths of these tracks are as haunted as anyone familiar with Psymun's dubby productions would expect, but these poltergeists sound as harmless as they are tricky, squiggles of friendly ghosts peeking from the shadows. Beats skitter away into dark corners of a track like insects when you flick on the light switch, and you can hear the squeak of guitar strings reminding you this was all crafted by humans.

But it's Nutzman's vocals, sensual but not overtly seductive, that define the mood. His voice shapeshifts as it flows, often aching upwards soulfully, sometimes dissipating in deep echo or electronic crackles, and his lyrics are playful and allusive—"I ride a Taurus, my eye a Horus/Can't buy divorce/La-la-la-la," a characteristic bit goes. Imagine where the Weeknd's albums might have gone if Abel Tesfaye wasn't so hung up on cartoon decadence (and was a warmer singer) and you'll get a sense of what's up.

Though Nutzman has worked with plenty of producers and musicians, he describes *Neon Brown* as his first "true collaboration." By that he means, "Music by committee. Lyrics by committee. It was an egoless situation where we all agreed that this was the goal we were working toward." And he credits that collaborative spirit for jumpstarting his music. "For one thing it's just simple accountability. If we're going to build this fucking popsicle-stick house, I can plan to do that, but it's hard to just wake up by yourself and clock in for the day."

It seems as though the onetime provocateur has embraced structure: accountability, discipline, even deadlines. "You can channel all that adrenaline anxiety into helping you make decisions," he says. "Deadlines are the new Adderall."

Velvet Negroni will play a release show for *Neon Brown* at the 7th St. Entry on Sunday, September 2. **EP**



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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

>> By Rob Brezsny

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): Here are examples of activities I recommend you try in the coming days. 1. Build a campfire on the beach with friends and regale each other with stories of your most interesting successes. 2. Buy eccentric treasures at a flea market and ever thereafter refer to them as your holy icons. 3. Climb a hill and sit on the grass as you sing your favorite songs and watch the moon slowly rise over the eastern horizon. 4. Take naps when you're "not supposed to." 5. Sneak into an orchard at night and eat fruit plucked just moments before. 6. Tell a beloved person a fairy tale in which he or she is the hero.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The hardest creature on the planet may be the bacterium known as *Deinococcus radiodurans*. It can endure exposure to radiation, intense cold, dehydration, acid, and vacuum. I propose we make it your power creature for the coming weeks. Why? Not because I expect you'll have to deal with a lot of extreme conditions, but rather because I think you'll be exceptionally robust, both physically and psychologically. If you've been waiting for the right time to succeed at demanding challenges that require you to be in top form, now is a good time to do it. P.S. *Deinococcus radiodurans* is colloquially referred to as Conan the Bacterium, borrowing from the spirit of the fictional character Conan the Barbarian, who is renowned for his strength and agility.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In the yearly cycle of many Geminis, retreating into a state akin to hibernation makes sense during the end of August and the first three weeks of September. But since many of you are high-energy sophisticates, you often override your body's signals. And then nature pushes back by compelling you to slow down. The result may be a rhythm that feels like constantly taking three steps forward and two steps backward. May I suggest a different approach this year? Would you consider surrendering, even slightly, to the invitation to relax and recharge?

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): If you decide to travel to a particular place via hot air balloon, you must be prepared for the possibility that your route will be indirect. At different altitudes, the wind may be blowing in different directions: toward the east at a hundred feet high, but toward the southwest at 200 feet. The trick for the pilot is to jockey up and down until finding a layer that's headed toward the desired destination. I see your life right now as having a metaphorical resemblance to this riddle. You have not yet discovered the layer that will take you where you want to go. But I bet you will soon.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Considering how bright you have been burning since the Flame Angels designated you as the Hottest Cool Person of the Month, I hesitate to urge you to simmer down. But I must. Before there's a meltdown in your vicinity, please lower your thermostat. Not a lot. Just a little. If you do that, everyone will continue to see your gleaming charisma in the best possible light. But don't you dare extinguish your blaze. Don't apologize for your brilliant shimmer. The rest of us need your magical radiance.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): *Shogun* is a bestselling novel about an Englishman who transforms himself into a samurai warrior in 17th-century Japan. Written by James Clavell, it's over 1,100 pages long. Clavell testified that the idea for the story sprang up in him when he read one line in his daughter's school book: "In 1600 an Englishman went to Japan and became a samurai." I suspect it's highly likely you will soon encounter a seed like that, Virgo: a bare inspiration that will eventually bloom into a Big Thing.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libran athlete Mickey Mantle is in Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame. He had a spectacular 18-year career, winning the Most Valuable Player Award three times, playing in 12 World Series, and being selected to the All-Star team 16 times. So it's astounding that he played with a torn ligament in his knee for 17 years, according to his biographer Jane Leavy. She quoted an orthopedic surgeon who said that Mantle compensated for his injury with "neuromuscular genius." I'm thinking that in the next few weeks you're in a position to accomplish an equivalent of Mantle's heroic adjustment.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Most people who belong to the Church of Satan neither believe in nor worship Satan. (They're atheists, and don't believe in the supernatural.) I think a comparable principle is true for many rightwing fundamentalist Christians. Their actions and words are replete with bigotry, hard-heartedness, materialism, and selfishness: so contrary to what the real Jesus Christ taught that they in effect don't believe in or worship Jesus Christ. I mention this, Scorpio, in hope of inspiring you to take inventory of whether your stated ideals are reflected in the practical details of how you live your life. That's always an interesting and important task, of course, but it's especially so for you right now. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to purge any hypocrisy from your system and get your actual behavior in close alignment with your deepest values.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): It's the right time for you to create a fresh mission statement and promotional campaign. For inspiration, read mine: "My column 'Free Will Astrology' offers you a wide selection of realities to choose from. With 4,212 years of dedication to customer service (over the course of my last 13 incarnations), I'm a reliable ally supporting your efforts to escape your oppressive conditioning and other people's hells. My horoscopes come with an ironclad guarantee: If the advice you read is wrong, you're under no obligation to believe it. And remember: a panel of 531 experts has determined that 'Free Will Astrology' is an effective therapy for your chronic wounds and primordial pain. It is also dramatic proof that there is no good reason to be afraid of life."

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Here are good questions for you to meditate on during the next few weeks. 1. How can you attract resources that will expand your mind and your world? 2. Are you bold enough to reach out to wise sources and provocative influences that could connect you with useful tricks and practical treasures? 3. What interesting lessons can you stir up as you explore the mercurial edges, skirt the changeable boundaries, journey to catalytic frontiers, and make pilgrimages to holy hubs? 4. How best can you encourage lyrical emotion over polished sentimentality? Joyous idealism over astringent zealotry? Exuberant integrity over formulaic kindness?

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "It is the beginning of wisdom when you recognize that the best you can do is choose which rules you want to live by," wrote author Wallace Stegner, "and it's persistent and aggravated inanity to pretend you can live without any." That will be an excellent meditation for you during the coming weeks. I trust you are long past the time of fantasizing you can live without any rules. Your challenge now is to adjust some of the rules you have been living by, or even dare to align yourself with some new rules—and then completely commit yourself to being loyal to them and enjoying them.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Given the astrological omens that will symbolize your personal story in the coming weeks and months, I think Piscean author Nikos Kazantzakis articulated the perfect prescription for you. I invite you to interpret his thoughts to fit your circumstances. "We're going to start with small, easy things," he wrote. "Then, little by little we shall try our hand at the big things. And after that, after we finish the big things, we shall undertake the impossible." Here's an additional prod from Kazantzakis: "Reach what you cannot."

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CO\$6 // The Right Here

SEP 17 The Standby // Pinched //
Riley // Howe

SEP 21 Brunch Show at Mortimer's
w/ Trash Catties Din-Din Lutheran Heat

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(certain members of pert near
sandstone, farmhouse band,
san souci quartet, row of ducks)

thu : aug 29

9:30pm : amethyst factor

fri : aug 30

7pm : laura and sean's movie
and music trivia

10pm : el le faunt

sat : aug 31

8pm : 331club presents
the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 fest, red
daughters, ghostmouth,
super flasher, solidstate,
buffalo fuzz (solo/electric)

mon : sep 2

8pm : the roe family singers
10pm : doug otto and friends

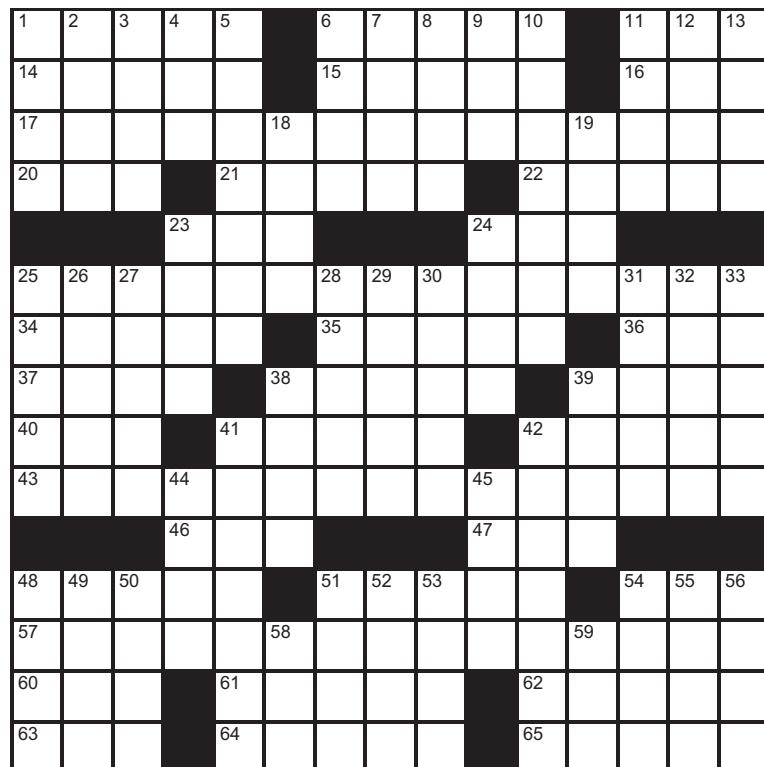
tue : sep 3

7-9pm : t.e.e. tuesday early evening
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OLD TOWN ROWS

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

Across

1 Soprano's upper limit
6 Took things the wrong way
11 Stout alternative
14 Arm of the sea
15 1961 John Updike short story featuring three girls in bathing suits
16 TLC provider
17 Old town row #1
20 Fix, as torn clothing
21 Apartments in a complex
22 TV's Wonder Woman Carter
23 Shrewdly tricky
24 "I'm a big ____"
25 Old town row #2
34 "See you, mon frere"
35 New York magazine puzzle maker Cathy
36 Marvel Entertainment CEO Perlmutter
37 "I shit you not"
38 "Straight Up" singer Paula
39 Transport to some moguls
40 WSW's opp.
41 More sick (probably not more cool, nobody says that anymore)
42 Won all the games in a series
43 Old town row #3
46 Bear in a Barcelona baby book
47 Crossed (out)
48 Party spot of the Balearic Islands
51 Fruit tree with purplish flowers
54 Nervous movement?
57 Old town row #4
58 Green testing spots
59 Diplomat's gift
60 Large burden
61 The, uh ... (checks notes) bad cholesterol, for short
62 Green testing spots
63 Beam
64 "Look at me"
65 Cosmetic mystical creature created by H. P. Lovecraft
66 Bollywood cover up
67 Diplomat's gift
68 Large burden
69 The, uh ... (checks notes) bad cholesterol, for short
70 Green testing spots
71 "Preach it!"
72 Booming
73 "Where'd You Go, Bernadette" actress Nelson
74 Single-named Irish New Age singer
75 Abbr. with the zip code 10001
76 Bear in a Barcelona baby book
77 Crossed (out)
78 Party spot of the Balearic Islands
79 Fruit tree with purplish flowers
80 Nervous movement?
81 Old town row #4
82 Miller's container

Down

1 Wolfram|Alpha results
2 Clarifying phrase in memos
3 Beam
4 "Look at me"
5 Cosmetic mystical creature created by H. P. Lovecraft
6 Bollywood cover up
7 Diplomat's gift
8 Large burden
9 The, uh ... (checks notes) bad cholesterol, for short
10 Green testing spots
11 "Preach it!"
12 Booming
13 "Where'd You Go, Bernadette" actress Nelson
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16 Bear in a Barcelona baby book
17 Crossed (out)
18 Party spot of the Balearic Islands
19 Fruit tree with purplish flowers
20 Nervous movement?
21 Old town row #4
22 Miller's container

Last Week's Answer

P	O	N	T	E	M	O	S	U	L	N	A	P
S	C	O	R	E	A	R	U	B	E	L	O	
Y	E	S	A	L	L	W	O	M	E	W	B	O
C	L	A	U	S	E	T	R	E	A	D	E	R
H	O	L	M	T	A	K	E	G	R	M		
S	T	E	A	K	M	A	R	S	V	O	L	T
S	P	A	R	K	S	I	P	S	A	T		
C	H	R	I	S	T	I	N	A	L	O	B	O
H	E	S	S	T	O	S	G	T	S	H	A	R
E	R	N	E	S	T	O	I	N	G	H	T	R
R	O	I	N	G	H	T	R	A	N	G	E	R
Z	I	P	A	L	O	U	D	T	R	E	N	T
O	D	S	G	E	N	T	S	Y	S	S	T	S

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Come the Revolution

Do men even care about getting me off?

I'm a straight woman, mid-20s, have been sexually active for about six years, and I'm about ready to become a "man-hating feminist." I feel I can figure out what a guy wants in bed pretty easily. I cannot remember a single time when I've had sex with a guy that he has not had an orgasm. I, on the other hand, have never had an orgasm. I've barely even been aroused lately when having sex because it's easy to tell when the guy I'm with just wants to come and that is the only thing on his mind. This makes me want to just get it over with. I've become angry at men and their lack of care for pleasing a woman. Will it take a Women's Pleasure Revolution for men to realize their female counterparts have needs, too? Granted, I've had sex with only five guys—but in my mind, Dan, that's five too many. I have girlfriends in the same boat. Men skip foreplay, they don't return the favor when it comes to oral, and they're so eager to get their penises in my vagina, they barely touch me before doing so! THIS MAKES ME FEEL USED. I'm a giving woman, but I feel like men just take. And I don't hate men. I really like men. In fact, I was madly in love with one of the five.

REALLY ENRAGED/VEXED OVER LAZY TURDS

"Lots of foreplay, mutual oral, enough touch to get me going or, better yet, get me off at least once—all of these things have to happen before we fuck." Practice saying that in a mirror, REVOLT, and then say it out loud to the next guy you sleep with. If those things don't happen—if he skips the foreplay or won't go down on you or refuses to touch you with anything other than his dick—then he doesn't get to fuck you. Get up, get dressed, and go. No more having sex to "get it over with" (GIOW); no more sticking around for shitty sex that leaves you feeling used.

Some guys will be happy to see you go. Given a choice between a woman they can't treat like a crusty tube sock and an actual crusty tube sock, a statistically significant percentage of straight guys will choose the sock. Don't waste your precious time or pussy on guys like that. And don't waste a moment of your time or any of

your pussy on guys who engage in a little half-assed foreplay or go down on you for 30 seconds before they try to stick their dicks in you. Only fuck the guys who enjoy foreplay and are excited to eat your pussy before fucking you—or instead of fucking you.



Dan Savage

for GIOW sex. Now, some women have GIOW sex because they're afraid a guy might react violently if they withdraw consent. That's a sadly reasonable fear. But too many women have GIOW sex to avoid disappointing male partners who have already disappointed them; too many women slap on a smile and fake an orgasm to spare the feelings of dudes who don't give a shit about their feelings or their pleasure.

You say you were in love with one of the five guys you had sex with, REVOLT, which I hope means you didn't fear him and could talk to him. Yet every time you had sex, you allowed this guy to essentially masturbate inside you. So take a little personal responsibility here: You let Mr. One-In-Five get away with it. He should have been more proactive about pleasing you—but you also let yourself down. Insist on more and better from here on out, REVOLT, and you will get more and better.

P.S. If what you meant by "I have never had an orgasm" is that you've never had an orgasm at all, alone or with a partner, then you need to start masturbating right now. You'll enjoy partnered sex more if you know what it takes to make you come and you can show your partners exactly what that looks like. And whether you're masturbating or not, please get your hands on a copy of *The Vagina Bible*, Jen Gunter's new book on everything vaginal, vulval, and clitoral.

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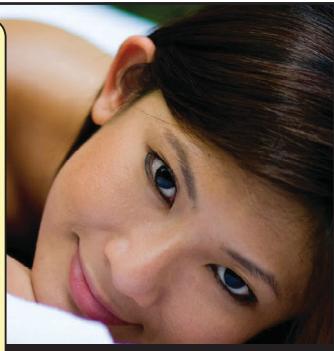
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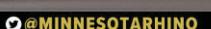
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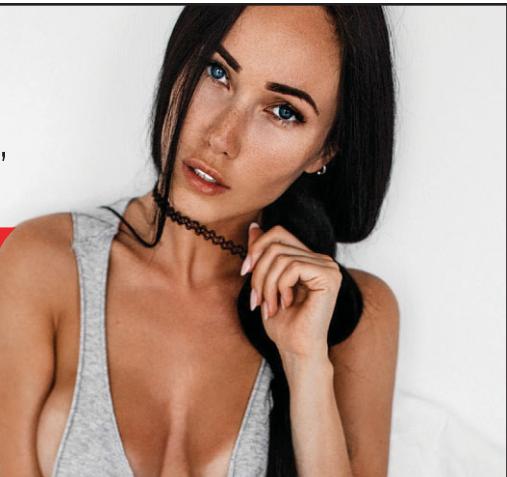
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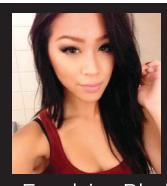
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